Hike #710

OTP Hike for 5/19/04 Chilao to Mount Hillyer Distance - 5.8 miles Elev. Change - 1100' Coordinator - Jack Robinson

Trailhead Directions:

Drive north on Hwy 2 (Angeles Crest) from the 210 Fwy to mileage paddle 50.60. Turn left into Chilao Campground and proceed .7 mi. and park on the left side of the road. You may see the Silver Moccasin Trail sign on the right. There are restrooms at the Visitors Center and campgrounds that you passed on the way to the trailhead but not at the parking area.

The Hike:

At 9:30 we start hiking north on the Sîlver Moccasin Trail using switchbacks to gain a slope covered with pines and chaparral. At 1.1 mi. and the edge of Horse Flats Campground we turn left and follow a path about 100 yds. to the Mount Hillyer trailhead and a sign indicating 2 miles to the summit. Proceed up the trail past clusters of manzanita; scrub oak and Jeffrey pine to a complex of very large boulders where we should have cookies. We proceed from there to the rounded summit area. The guides recommend a side hike of about 100 yards southwest onto a lirebreak for a better viewpoint. After the summit the trail continues north until we reach the Santa Clara Divide Road where we will have lunch.

After lunch we proceed down the road .5 miles to the horse Flats Campground turnoff. We now follow this road .7 nile to where we left the Silver Moccasin Trail. We then retrace our steps 1.1 miles down to Chilao. After the hike we can walk or drive to one of the nearby campgrounds for refreshments.